GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:553
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2001
UNRESTRICTED EXPORT OF ONION
BHAWANA GAWALI (PATIL);HARIBHAU MAHALE

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have assessed the export potentials for onion;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the quantity of onion to be exported;

(c) the quantity of onion exported during 1999-2000;

(d) whether the farmers are not getting remunerative price for want of unrestricted export of onion;

(e) if so, whether the Government propose to lift restrictions on the export of onion to enable the farmers get remunerative price; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFFERED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.553 DUE FOR REPLY ON 30TH AUGUST, 2001.

(a)&(b): Onion has considerable export potential in the markets of the Middle Eastand South Asian countries. During the current year, Government has fixed a ceiling of 5,00,000 Mts. of onion for export.

(c): A quantity of 2.60 lakh Mts. of onion was exported during the year 1999-2000.

(d) to (f): Allowing exports of 3.5 lakh Mts of onion during the year 2000-2001 and a quantity of 2.5 lakh Mts. of onion during the current year 2001-02, till now, have helped the farmers by way of stabilisation in the domestic prices of onion, ensuring increased off-take of onion from the farm, and higher returns for their produce.

The long-term export policy evolved by the Government is intended to benefit the growers and safeguard consumer interests as well as instil confidence in the importers on continued availability of onions from the country.